

TOWN OF SALEM, CT.

Economic Development Commission

Regular Meeting, December 21, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Salem Office Building, Room 2

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:45 pm by meeting chair Frank Sroka.

Members present:

Frank Sroka

Wendy Mikolinski (arrived late)

Andy Lightner

Paul Robillard (Alternate, recently appointed by Board of Selectmen and sworn in by Town Clerk)

Members not present:

Ada Vaill

Ken Bondi

Visitors:

Phil Teixeira

1. Reading of Agenda – chairperson

Frank Sroka presented agenda. Paul Robillard was welcomed as a new Alternate Member to EDC and was appointed to serve as a regular member tonight to establish a quorum for the start of the meeting.

Motion: Andy Lightner moved to approve the Minutes for the 11/16/2015 meeting. Seconded by Frank Sroka. Unanimously approved.

2. Communications

None

3. Public Comment

Phil Teixeira discussed Salem's population decline, particularly in the school; he suggested the EDC consider producing a visual format product (ie DVD, You Tube Video, etc), that can be distributed to

Ada Vaill
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Human Resource Departments at regional corporate offices and to Real Estate Agents to use as a tool to help boost Salem's resident population numbers. During discussion, we considered the idea of using ELHS or UConn students to help develop such communication tools. Response to Phil's suggestion was positive.

4. Reports

Frank Sroka reported on the current status of the P&Z committee decision regarding the proposed Microbrewery Project on Music Vale Road. The P&Z committee has deferred making a decision until its next regular meeting on January 19, 2016 to enable Commission members ample time to review all the relevant documentation. The public hearing has been closed.

5. Old Business

- a. Frank Sroka has requested responses to the Business Owner's Survey from the First Selectman's office that was published in the Our Town December edition. Upon receipt, Frank will present any data at the next EDC meeting. We will also consider other steps we can take to ensure maximum participation in this effort by local businesses, including home businesses (e.g., possible direct mailing?).
- b. The EDC has reviewed Rich Serra's available space (list of non-residential zoned properties) report. Frank Sroka will communicate with the assessor's office through the First Selectman for further clarification of the data and update EDC at the next meeting.

6. New Business

- a. Paul Robillard stated he will present copies of The Heritage Day business directory at the next EDC meeting for use as a guide in producing the Salem Business Directory. Also discussed was the idea of converting a vacant unit in the Town Center building to a combination public rest room facility (using waterless fixtures), bulletin board/news area, and possibly an additional ATM from another local bank(s).
- b. Frank Sroka asked the EDC members to continue writing down any ideas they had for future EDC projects; the suggestions can be submitted to him and will be held for future consideration.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Salem Town Hall, Room 2.

Motion: Wendy Mikolinski moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Andy Lightner. Unanimously approved.

Meeting Adjourned 9:10 p.m.